



New Mexico Labor Market Review

55578-2

GARREY CARRUTHERS, GOVERNOR
NEW MEXICO DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

Paul M. Garcia, Secretary
Volume 16, No. 5, July 1, 1987

Prepared by
Economic Research and Analysis
P.O. Box 1928
Albuquerque, New Mexico 87103
(505) 841-8645

Labor force estimates for May continued to reflect gradual improvement in New Mexico's economy. New Mexico's unemployment rate was 8.5 percent in May, down from 8.9 percent in April and 9.0 percent one year ago. The state's jobless rate has now been below the comparable year ago rate for three consecutive months. The U.S. unemployment rate (not seasonally adjusted) in May was 6.1 percent, compared with 6.2 percent in April and 7.0 percent one year ago.

Total nonagricultural wage and salary employment increased by 4,500 in May as seasonal advances occurred in construction, trade, and services. In trade, all of the additional jobs were in the retail area—largely at restaurants, food and general merchandise stores. Lodging places accounted for the majority of the increase in services as businesses added workers for the summer tourist season.

Manufacturing employment grew by a rather strong 700 jobs during May, largely the result of increases in lumber and transportation

equipment. The advance in the lumber industry was somewhat stronger than the usual spring expansion, and the gain in transportation equipment was the result of continued growth at a few large firms in the industry. Employment is now up by approximately 12 percent from one year ago in both industries.

Mining employment increased by 200 during May, but it was mostly caused by the end of a two-month long labor dispute at the Pittsburg and Midway Coal Company near Gallup. Employment in oil & gas fell by 200 jobs in May after experiencing a small gain in April.

Below are unemployment rates for New Mexico and its border states for April 1987, the most current month available for comparison.

New Mexico	8.9%
Colorado	8.9%
Texas	8.3%
Oklahoma	7.8%
Arizona	7.0%
Utah	6.7%

	Prel. May 1987	Revised Apr. 1987	Revised May 1986	Change From Apr. 1987	Change From May 1986
Civilian Labor Force	679,200	678,000	671,100	+1,200	+8,100
Employment	621,800	617,600	610,700	+4,200	+11,100
Unemployment	57,400	60,400	60,400	-3,000	-3,000
Rate	8.5%	8.9%	9.0%		

ESTIMATED NONAGRICULTURAL WAGE AND SALARY EMPLOYMENT (JOBS)
(Prepared in cooperation with the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics)

NEW MEXICO	PRELIM MAY 1987	REVISED APR 1987	REVISED MAY 1986	MAY CHANGE FROM APR 1987	MAY 1986
TOTAL NONAGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT 1/	536,400	531,900	528,100	4,500	8,300
MINING	14,600	14,400	15,900	200	-1,300
Metal Mining	2,000	1,900	2,100	100	-100
Bituminous Coal, Quarrying etc	3,900	3,600	4,200	300	-300
Oil & Gas Extraction	8,700	8,900	9,600	-200	-900
CONSTRUCTION	34,800	33,800	35,900	1,000	-1,100
MANUFACTURING	38,300	37,600	37,200	700	1,100
DURABLE GOODS	25,000	24,400	24,400	600	600
Lumber & Wood Products	2,900	2,700	2,600	200	300
Machinery(except electric)	2,500	2,500	2,600	0	-100
Elec & Electronic Equip	4,200	4,300	4,700	-100	-500
Transportation Equipment	4,600	4,300	4,100	300	500
Other Durable Goods	10,800	10,600	10,400	200	400
NONDURABLE GOODS	13,300	13,200	12,800	100	500
Food & Kindred Products	4,200	4,100	4,100	100	100
Textile & Apparel	2,500	2,500	2,300	0	200
Other Nondurable Goods	6,600	6,600	6,400	0	200
TRANSPORTATION & PUBLIC UTILITIES	28,700	29,000	29,400	-300	-700
TRANSPORTATION	12,800	12,800	12,800	0	0
Railroad Transportation	2,100	2,100	2,300	0	-200
Trucking & Warehousing	5,900	5,900	5,900	0	0
Other Transportation	4,800	4,800	4,600	0	200
COMMUNICATION & PUBLIC UTILITIES	15,900	16,200	16,600	-300	-700
Communication	6,700	6,800	6,800	-100	-100
Elec, Gas, & Sanitary Services	9,200	9,400	9,800	-200	-600
WHOLESALE & RETAIL TRADE	129,100	127,000	126,200	2,100	2,900
WHOLESALE TRADE	22,400	22,400	22,600	0	-200
Durable Goods	13,500	13,500	13,400	0	100
Nondurable Goods	8,900	8,900	9,200	0	-300
RETAIL TRADE	106,700	104,600	103,600	2,100	3,100
Bldg Material & Mobile Homes	4,600	4,500	4,500	100	100
General Merchandise Stores	12,300	12,000	11,500	300	800
Food Stores	15,900	15,500	15,200	400	700
Auto Dealers & Service Stations	13,400	13,200	13,100	200	300
Apparel & Accessories	5,300	5,300	5,400	0	-100
Furniture & Furnishing	4,500	4,600	4,300	-100	200
Eating & Drinking Places	38,400	37,400	37,900	1,000	500
Miscellaneous Retail	12,300	12,100	11,700	200	600
FINANCE, INSURANCE, & REAL ESTATE	27,300	27,100	26,600	200	700
Banking	8,000	7,900	8,100	100	-100
Insurance Carriers	3,800	3,800	3,500	0	300
Insur Agents, Brokers & Service	3,000	3,000	2,900	0	100
Real Estate	6,400	6,400	6,300	0	100
Other Fin, Ins & Real Estate	6,100	6,000	5,800	100	300
SERVICES	122,500	121,500	118,000	1,000	4,500
Hotels & Other Lodging Places	12,400	12,000	11,400	400	1,000
Personal Services	6,100	6,200	5,900	-100	200
Business Services	28,700	28,600	28,100	100	600
Health Services	30,000	29,900	28,900	100	1,100
Legal Services	4,100	4,000	4,000	100	100
Educational Services	5,300	5,200	5,100	100	200
Social Services	6,300	6,300	6,900	0	-600
Membership Organizations	6,800	6,600	6,100	200	700
Other Services	22,800	22,700	21,600	100	1,200
TOTAL GOVERNMENT	141,100	141,500	138,900	-400	2,200
FEDERAL GOVERNMENT	31,300	30,800	30,200	500	1,100
STATE & LOCAL GOVERNMENT	109,800	110,700	108,700	-900	1,100
State Government	49,900	51,200	50,500	-1,300	-600
Local Government	59,900	59,500	58,200	400	1,700

1/ Estimates include all full-time and part-time wage and salary workers who worked or received pay during the pay period which included the 12th day of the month. Self-employed, family workers, household workers and members of the Armed Forces are excluded.

2/ Includes employees of Los Alamos National Laboratory.

ALBUQUERQUE AREA (BERNALILLO COUNTY)

HIGHLIGHTS

Albuquerque's May labor force estimates reflected improvement in unemployment after showing some deterioration in April. A greater-than-expected decline of 1,100 job seekers was recorded during the period, and the unemployment rate fell from 6.2% to 5.8%. A year ago, the rate was 6.0%.

Nonagricultural wage and salary employment rose by 300 between April and May; however, even a gain of this size is larger than is normally expected for the period. Both trade and finance, insurance, & real estate gained more than the seasonal normal number of jobs, while services held steady during a period when a decline is expected. Contrasting with these divisions was construction, which gained a smaller-than-expected 200 jobs. Within the divisions, eating & drinking places and general merchandise stores contributed most of the increase in trade, while in services, many firms combined their modest gains to offset the large seasonal losses experienced by income tax preparation services and the

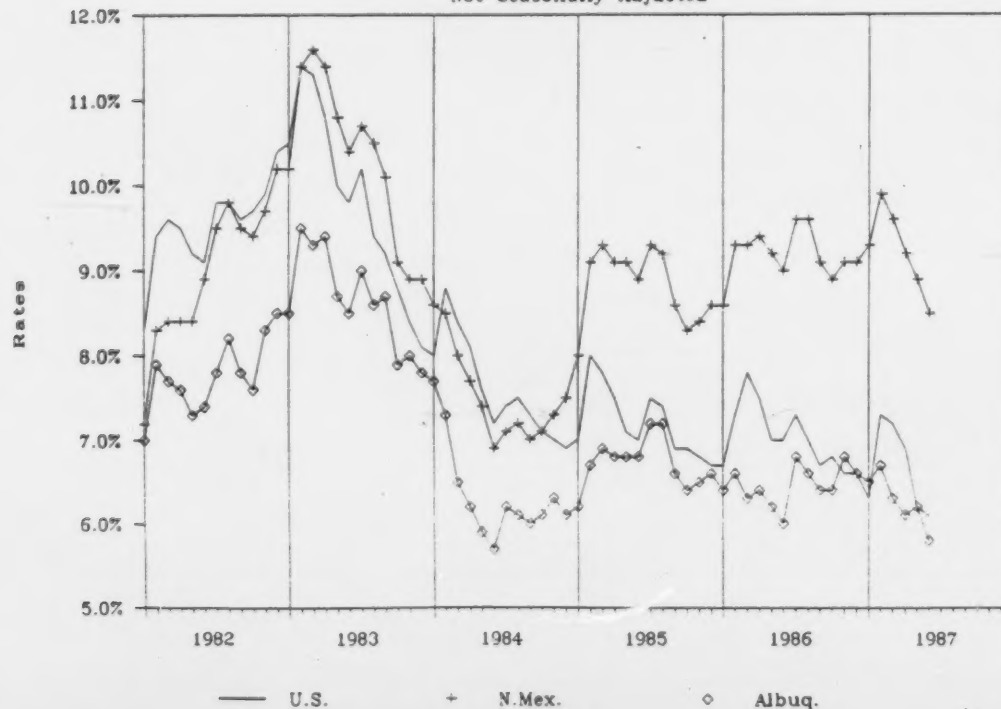
horse racing industry. The large drop noted in State government was mostly caused by normal end-of-semester furloughs of part-time student employees at the university.

The increase of 5,500 nonagricultural payroll jobs over the year ago level represents a gain of 2.4 percent, which is very much in line with the similar modest year-to-year advances of the past several months. The most significant over-the-year increases were registered by health services, miscellaneous services, and local government; business services, eating & drinking places, and the insurance industry also experienced solid gains. In the manufacturing division, employment levels are now lower than a year ago in food, fabricated metal, and stone, clay & glass, while more jobs now exist in transportation equipment, professional & scientific instruments, and apparel. Nearly the entire loss in State government jobs since a year ago is attributable to fewer workers at the university.

	Prel. May 1987	Apr. 1987	Revised May 1986	Change From Apr. 1987	May 1986
Civilian Labor Force	258,500	261,100	251,600	-2,600	+6,900
Employment	243,400	244,900	236,400	-1,500	+7,000
Unemployment	15,100	16,200	15,200	-1,100	-,100
Rate	5.8%	6.2%	6.0%		

Unemployment Rates

Not Seasonally Adjusted



=====

ESTIMATED NONAGRICULTURAL WAGE AND SALARY EMPLOYMENT (JOBS)
(Prepared in cooperation with the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics)

ALBUQUERQUE MSA (BERNALILLO COUNTY)	PRELIM MAY 1987	REVISED APR 1987	REVISED MAY 1986	MAY CHANGE FROM APR 1987	MAY 1986

TOTAL NONAGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT 1/	231,900	231,600	226,400	300	5,500
MINING	200	200	200	0	0
CONSTRUCTION	17,200	17,000	17,100	200	100
MANUFACTURING	19,500	19,500	19,600	0	-100
Durable Goods	14,000	14,000	14,000	0	0
Nondurable Goods	5,500	5,500	5,600	0	-100
TRANSPORTATION & PUBLIC UTILITIES	12,400	12,400	12,200	0	200
Transportation	6,000	6,000	5,900	0	100
Communication	3,800	3,800	3,700	0	100
Elec, Gas, & Sanitary Services	2,600	2,600	2,600	0	0
WHOLESALE & RETAIL TRADE	59,400	58,700	57,900	700	1,500
WHOLESALE TRADE	14,300	14,200	14,100	100	200
Durable Goods	9,800	9,700	9,500	100	300
Nondurable Goods	4,500	4,500	4,600	0	-100
RETAIL TRADE	45,100	44,500	43,800	600	1,300
General Merchandise Stores	4,800	4,600	4,700	200	100
Food Stores	5,000	5,000	4,800	0	200
Auto Dealers & Service Stations	4,900	4,800	4,900	100	0
Eating & Drinking Places	17,500	17,200	17,200	300	300
Other Retail Trade	12,900	12,900	12,200	0	700
FINANCE, INSURANCE, & REAL ESTATE	14,900	14,800	14,200	100	700
Banking	3,200	3,200	3,100	0	100
Ins Carriers, Agents & Brokers	4,300	4,200	4,000	100	300
Other Fin, Ins & Real Estate	7,400	7,400	7,100	0	300
SERVICES	63,200	63,200	60,600	0	2,600
Hotels & Other Lodging Places	4,000	4,000	3,800	0	200
Personal Services	3,200	3,300	3,100	-100	100
Business Services	20,300	20,200	19,900	100	400
Health Services	14,600	14,600	13,700	0	900
Social Services	3,000	2,900	2,700	100	300
Membership Organizations	1,700	1,700	1,800	0	-100
Other Services	16,400	16,500	15,600	-100	800
TOTAL GOVERNMENT	45,100	45,800	44,600	-700	500
FEDERAL GOVERNMENT	13,300	13,300	12,900	0	400
STATE & LOCAL GOVERNMENT	31,800	32,500	31,700	-700	100
State Government	12,000	12,900	12,700	-900	-700
Local Government	19,800	19,600	19,000	200	800

1/ Estimates include all full-time and part-time wage and salary workers who worked or received pay during the pay period which included the 12th day of the month. Self-employed, family workers, household workers and members of the Armed Forces are excluded.

ESTIMATED NONAGRICULTURAL WAGE AND SALARY EMPLOYMENT (JOBS)
(Prepared in cooperation with the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics)

LAS CRUCES MSA (DONA ANA COUNTY) 1/	PRELIM MAY 1987	REVISED APR 1987	REVISED MAY 1986	MAY CHANGE FROM APR 1987	MAY 1986
TOTAL NONAGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT 2/	40,400	40,050	40,200	350	200
MINING	50	50	100	0	-50
CONSTRUCTION	2,800	2,700	2,700	100	100
MANUFACTURING	3,200	3,050	3,150	150	50
Durable Goods	1,300	1,250	1,250	50	50
Nondurable Goods	1,900	1,800	1,900	100	0
TRANSPORTATION & PUBLIC UTILITIES	1,400	1,400	1,300	0	100
Transportation	550	550	500	0	50
Comm, Elec, Gas & Sanitary Svs	850	850	800	0	50
WHOLESALE & RETAIL TRADE	7,800	7,650	7,700	150	100
WHOLESALE TRADE	800	800	800	0	0
RETAIL TRADE	7,000	6,850	6,900	150	100
General Merchandise Stores	900	900	850	0	50
Food Stores	1,050	1,050	1,000	0	50
Auto Dealers & Service Stations	900	850	900	50	0
Eating & Drinking Places	2,700	2,600	2,700	100	0
Other Retail Trade	1,450	1,450	1,450	0	0
FINANCE, INSURANCE, & REAL ESTATE SERVICES	1,600	1,600	1,600	0	0
Hotels & Other Lodging Places	6,050	6,200	5,550	-150	500
Business Services	750	800	550	-50	200
Health Services	1,200	1,150	1,000	50	200
Social Services	1,750	1,700	1,550	50	200
Other Services	250	250	250	0	0
TOTAL GOVERNMENT	2,100	2,300	2,200	-200	-100
FEDERAL GOVERNMENT	17,500	17,400	18,100	100	-600
STATE & LOCAL GOVERNMENT	4,400	4,300	4,400	100	0
State Government	13,100	13,100	13,700	0	-600
Local Government	7,900	7,900	8,600	0	-700
	5,200	5,200	5,100	0	100

SANTA FE MSA (SANTA FE & LOS ALAMOS COUNTIES) 1/	PRELIM MAY 1987	REVISED APR 1987	REVISED MAY 1986	MAY CHANGE FROM APR 1987	MAY 1986
TOTAL NONAGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT 2/	54,650	53,850	52,750	800	1,900
MINING	100	100	100	0	0
CONSTRUCTION	3,400	3,300	3,200	100	200
MANUFACTURING	1,600	1,550	1,600	50	0
Durable Goods	1,000	950	1,000	50	0
Nondurable Goods	600	600	600	0	0
TRANSPORTATION & PUBLIC UTILITIES	1,200	1,150	1,300	50	-100
Transportation	450	400	400	50	50
Comm, Elec, Gas & Sanitary Svs	750	750	900	0	-150
WHOLESALE & RETAIL TRADE	10,750	10,500	9,800	250	950
WHOLESALE TRADE	700	700	700	0	0
RETAIL TRADE	10,050	9,800	9,100	250	950
General Merchandise Stores	950	950	850	0	100
Food Stores	1,900	1,850	1,250	50	650
Auto Dealers & Service Stations	800	800	800	0	0
Eating & Drinking Places	3,800	3,700	3,700	100	100
Other Retail Trade	2,600	2,500	2,500	100	100
FINANCE, INSURANCE, & REAL ESTATE SERVICES	2,200	2,200	2,000	0	200
Hotels & Other Lodging Places	13,900	13,450	13,450	450	450
Business Services	2,000	1,850	1,850	150	150
Health Services	3,100	3,100	3,100	0	0
Social Services	3,000	3,000	2,900	0	100
Other Services	600	600	600	0	0
TOTAL GOVERNMENT	5,200	4,900	5,000	300	200
FEDERAL GOVERNMENT	21,500	21,600	21,300	-100	200
STATE & LOCAL GOVERNMENT	1,600	1,500	1,600	100	0
State Government	19,900	20,100	19,700	-200	200
Local Government	16,000	16,200	16,000	-200	0
	3,900	3,900	3,700	0	200

- 1/ In accordance with the CES Manual, those published cells with less than 2,000 employees are rounded to nearest 50. Those published cells with more than 2,000 employees are rounded to 100.
- 2/ Estimates include all full-time and part-time wage and salary workers who worked or received pay during the pay period which included the 12th day of the month. Self-employed, family workers, household workers and members of the Armed Forces are excluded.
- 3/ Includes employees of Los Alamos National Laboratory.

AVERAGE HOURS AND EARNINGS Hours and Earnings of Production, Construction and Nonsupervisory Employees (Prepared in cooperation with the U. S. Bureau of Labor Statistics)									
	AVERAGE WEEKLY EARNINGS			AVERAGE WEEKLY HOURS			AVERAGE HOURLY EARNINGS		
NEW MEXICO	MAY 1987	APR 1987	MAY 1986	MAY 1987	APR 1987	MAY 1986	MAY 1987	APR 1987	MAY 1986
MINING	\$497.24	\$487.10	\$496.65	40.1	42.1	39.7	12.40	11.57	12.51
CONSTRUCTION	\$409.12	\$400.23	\$399.86	38.2	37.3	37.3	10.71	10.73	10.72
MANUFACTURING	\$353.79	\$347.45	\$344.20	40.9	39.8	39.7	8.65	8.73	8.67
Durable Goods	\$363.67	\$363.78	\$354.97	41.0	40.6	40.2	8.87	8.96	8.83
Nondurable Goods	\$311.66	\$310.40	\$318.84	40.9	37.9	38.6	7.62	8.19	8.26
COMMUNICATION & UTILITIES	\$572.88	\$562.72	\$492.06	42.0	41.9	43.7	13.64	13.43	11.26
WHOLESALE & RETAIL TRADE	\$221.44	\$224.45	\$217.19	33.5	33.5	31.8	6.61	6.70	6.83
Wholesale Trade	\$362.70	\$368.78	\$383.36	39.0	39.4	39.4	9.30	9.36	9.73
Retail Trade	\$192.73	\$196.06	\$184.83	32.5	32.3	30.3	5.93	6.07	6.10
BANKING	\$229.08	\$227.50	\$211.62	38.5	38.3	38.9	5.95	5.94	5.44
ALBUQUERQUE MSA	MAY 1987	APR 1987	MAY 1986	MAY 1987	APR 1987	MAY 1986	MAY 1987	APR 1987	MAY 1986
MANUFACTURING	\$363.89	\$365.88	\$350.40	39.9	39.9	40.0	9.12	9.17	8.76
Durable Goods	\$375.60	\$382.18	\$361.49	40.0	40.4	40.3	9.39	9.46	8.97
Nondurable Goods	\$323.26	\$316.42	\$314.70	38.9	38.4	38.9	8.31	8.24	8.09

NOTE: Estimates include all full-time and part-time wage and salary workers who worked or received pay during the pay period which included the 12th day of the month. Self-employed, family workers, household workers and members of the Armed Forces are excluded. The average earnings are "gross" reflecting not only changes in basic hourly and incentive wage rates but also such factors as premium pay for overtime and shift differentials. The work week information relates to the average hours for which pay was received, and is different from standard or scheduled hours due to absenteeism, labor turnover, part time work, overtime work etc.

AREA ECONOMIC ACTIVITY:

STATEWIDE: Wickes Companies Inc. of Santa Monica, California plans to close its Allwoods Home Centers in Hobbs, Roswell, and Santa Fe. Liquidation will take place over the next five weeks, and the stores should be completely shut down by August. The company employed 37 people in the Hobbs store, 35 in Roswell, and 35 in Santa Fe.

ALAMOGORDO AREA: Scott Motors, Inc. in Alamogordo has received a contract from Weslo Inc. of Logan, Utah to manufacture motor-control devices for treadmills. Scott Motors officials expect to hire approximately 40 new workers to handle the contract, boosting the firm's payroll to 200. Ground was broken recently at the corner of US-70 and Airport Road for a Honda-Volkswagen dealership.

ALBUQUERQUE AREA: The University of New Mexico is planning a \$100 million research and business park. The 100-acre research/business park will be built near Stadium and University Boulevards SE. The park, which will be called University Center,

will be developed by Glenborough New Mexico Associates, who expect to erect their first building in 1988. The master plan shows 770,000 square feet of office space and 223,000 square feet in commercial space, which will include 168,000 square-feet of space for a hotel. The park could create over 700 jobs when completed. Construction on the expansion of the Albuquerque Airport is proceeding on schedule. The first phase of the expansion will bring the total number of gates to 22 and will update the parking and ticketing facilities, at a cost of \$120 million. The first phase is scheduled for completion by mid-1989. A second phase of construction has been announced; officials are planning an additional 11 gates at a cost of \$25 million. The second construction phase has an anticipated completion date of mid-1990. Boyle Development Co. is planning a \$300 million High Resort project in Rio Rancho. The project calls for 4,000 housing units, a \$60 million resort hotel, and a regional shopping center on a par with Coronado or Winrock. Developers believe the first model single-family

homes will be built by July 15 of this year, and the entire project will be completed within eight years. Developers on the east side of the mountain are planning a wild animal park. The 158-acre park would be along Interstate 40 near Edgewood and would include an amphitheater, restaurant, and a motel. The park should cost from \$4 to \$7 million to build and will have as many as 500 animals of about 70 different species. The Sandoval County Commission plans to build a \$1.9 million jail/judicial complex on the west side of the river near the intersection of NM 528 and NM 44. Construction of the complex is expected to begin next month and should be completed in 12 to 15 months. Construction has begun on Cottonwood Auto Plaza near the intersection of Paseo del Norte roadway and Coors Road. Its first occupant will be Reliable Chevrolet, the city's third Chevy dealer. Reliable will cover 7.5 acres of the 40-acre auto park and is expected to open for business within one year. The auto park will take about five years to develop and will employ 600 to 700 workers once it's completed. Construction has started on a 64,000-square-foot Bag N' Save Food Emporium. The supermarket will be located on Southern Boulevard in Rio Rancho and should be open for business by the first of the year. St. Pius High School has started its \$3.5 million renovation of the old University of Albuquerque campus on the West Mesa. St. Pius will move from its uptown location in the fall of 1988 and merge with the smaller St. Joseph's on the Rio Grande High School, which is currently occupying one of the buildings at the site.

CARLSBAD / ARTESIA AREA: Because construction is ahead of schedule, Brantley Dam could be completed by early next summer. The Brantley reservoir, located north of Carlsbad on the Pecos River, will cover at least 3.5 square miles and be adjacent to a new state park with boat and camping facilities. In an effort to deal with an anticipated \$320,000 budget deficit, the Artesia City Council recently cut all city employees' wages and benefits by approximately seven percent. Several municipalities in southeastern New Mexico are experiencing financial difficulties due to the slump in the oil and gas industry.

CLOVIS AREA: Frozfruit Inc. is employing about 150 workers to operate its three processing lines and two work shifts at the frozen fruit dessert plant in Clovis. Commonwealth Theaters has broken ground for a new theater to be built at the North Plains Mall. The new theater will seat from 800 to 1,000 people, will have four screens, and should be completed by the fall.

FARMINGTON AREA: Care Concepts West, a van conversion company, has opened a new plant. The company will begin converting Dodge mini-vans for use by wheelchair-bound individuals. The plant will be located on the Bloomfield Highway and should begin operations this month. Representatives from the company said the plant may eventually employ up to 100 people. First Interstate Bank has laid off 10 employees from its banks in San Juan County. The employees worked at the bank's main office and at branch banks in Bloomfield, Aztec, and Farmington. Construction of a new post office in Farmington should begin by the middle of June. The new post office building will have 41,000 square feet and cost about \$2,816,000 to build.

GALLUP AREA: Cox Furniture Manufacturing Co. has moved into the Summit Building on SR 53 North. There will be 20 to 25 people working on the first shift hired. The company hopes to hire a second shift in about six months. A shopping center will be built next to the new hospital in Crownpoint. The 37,000-square-foot center will cost \$2.8 million to build.

LAS CRUCES AREA: TRW Corp. was awarded a \$160 million contract to manage the Strategic Defense Initiative free-electron laser project, to be located at White Sands Missile Range near Orogrande. Pentagon officials had previously awarded \$197 million to Fluor Constructors to construct the facilities for the project. TRW Corp. is expected to employ 300 to 400 persons in the area, and the firm will locate its administrative offices in Las Cruces.

ROSWELL AREA: The Roswell branch of Eastern New Mexico University has received a \$290,000 grant under the Job Training Partnership Act (JTPA) to train displaced oil

and gas workers in southeastern New Mexico. The university will train the workers for welding and assembly jobs anticipated to open up at Transportation Manufacturing Corporation (TMC) in Roswell. TMC also received a \$200,000 Economic Development grant to train workers who do not qualify for the JTPA training. TMC is expected to add up to 500 workers to its current 1,000 work force over the next one to two years to staff a new division at its Roswell bus and trailer manufacturing plant. TMC is now expanding its plant by 200,000-square-feet to handle the new division.

SANTA FE AREA: Construction of the new high school in Santa Fe is proceeding on schedule. The school is being built on a 45-acre site southwest of the intersection of Cerrillos and Airport Roads and should be completed in the fall of 1988. The school will cost approximately \$17 million to build. A Phoenix developer plans to begin work this summer on a 100,000-square-foot shopping center across from Villa Linda Mall. The shopping center will have a 40,000-square-foot supermarket, fast food restaurants, and clothing stores. A 208-unit apartment complex for senior citizens will be built next to the shopping center. The shopping center will be called Spanish Gate and is expected to cost about \$5 million.

SILVER CITY AREA: Chino Mines has announced that \$14 million will be spent beginning in August for refurbishing and upgrading its smelter. Phelps Dodge Corp. has selected Brown & Root Inc. as the prime contractor for its \$55 million solvent extraction-electrowinning plant to be built at the Santa Rita mine. Brown & Root is expected to employ 400 to 500 workers to build the plant which should be completed by the end of 1988. Westar Corporation has started stripmining south of Lordsburg. The mined rock is crushed and then leached with a cyanide solution to extract the gold and silver. Westar is mining approximately 20,000 tons of ore per month using a work force of 17.

SOCORRO AREA: Work has started in Socorro on the \$6 million Array Operations Center of the National Radio Astronomy Observatory (NRAO). Jointly funded by the state and the National Science Foundation, the center will house operations and computer facilities to tie together various radio telescope antennas, including the Very Large Array located west of Socorro. Construction is scheduled to begin in July on the State Fire Academy; the facility will cost \$6 million to build. The academy is scheduled to open in the fall of 1988 and will provide training for 2500 to 3000 people annually.

U.S. CONSUMER PRICE INDEX

	<u>May 1987</u>	<u>Apr. 1987</u>	<u>May 1986</u>	Percent Change	
				<u>Apr.'87-May'87</u>	<u>May'86-May'87</u>
CPI-U	338.7	337.7	326.3	+0.3%	+3.8%
CPI-W	333.4	332.3	321.4	+0.3%	+3.7%

Index Base Year 1967 = 100

CPI-U - All Urban Consumers

CPI-W - Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers

Source: U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics

NEW MEXICO LABOR FORCE ESTIMATES 1/

PRELIMINARY MAY 1987

REVISED APRIL 1987

REVISED MAY 1986

	Labor Force	Empl.	Unemp.	Rate	Labor Force	Empl.	Unemp.	Rate	Labor Force	Empl.	Unemp.	Rate
STATEWIDE	679,114	621,752	57,362	8.4%	678,008	617,594	60,414	8.9%	671,146	610,713	60,433	9.0%
ALBUQUERQUE MSA 2/	258,494	243,421	15,073	5.8%	261,016	244,860	16,156	6.2%	251,628	236,415	15,213	6.0%
LAS CRUCES MSA 3/	57,293	53,266	4,027	7.0%	54,873	51,097	3,776	6.9%	56,164	52,028	4,136	7.4%
SANTA FE MSA 4/	65,827	62,114	3,713	5.6%	64,819	61,043	3,776	5.8%	63,732	60,589	3,143	4.9%
Catron	1,134	1,008	126	11.1%	1,131	933	198	17.5%	965	857	108	11.2%
Chaves	22,641	20,785	1,856	8.2%	22,513	20,522	1,991	8.8%	22,419	20,351	2,068	9.2%
Cibola	8,452	7,274	1,178	13.9%	8,471	7,207	1,264	14.9%	8,753	7,150	1,603	18.3%
Colfax	6,797	5,952	845	12.4%	6,604	5,649	955	14.5%	6,966	5,907	1,059	15.2%
Curry	17,459	16,209	1,250	7.2%	17,227	15,911	1,316	7.6%	17,262	16,092	1,170	6.8%
De Baca	921	838	83	9.0%	895	808	87	9.7%	959	868	91	9.5%
Eddy	21,809	19,191	2,618	12.0%	21,569	18,950	2,619	12.1%	22,624	19,570	3,054	13.5%
Grant	9,905	8,946	959	9.7%	9,897	8,911	986	10.0%	9,641	8,597	1,044	10.8%
Guadalupe	1,609	1,353	256	15.9%	1,630	1,325	305	18.7%	1,645	1,449	196	11.9%
Harding	501	458	43	8.6%	441	387	54	12.2%	456	402	54	11.8%
Hidalgo	2,455	2,331	124	5.1%	2,437	2,274	163	6.7%	2,540	2,408	132	5.2%
Lea	23,326	20,834	2,492	10.7%	23,472	20,754	2,718	11.6%	25,746	22,150	3,596	14.0%
Lincoln	7,257	6,788	469	6.5%	6,692	6,148	544	8.1%	7,926	7,421	505	6.4%
Luna	5,743	4,908	835	14.5%	5,658	4,801	857	15.1%	5,530	4,707	823	14.9%
McKinley	16,549	14,621	1,928	11.7%	16,920	14,929	1,991	11.8%	17,110	15,084	2,026	11.8%
Mora	1,185	768	417	35.2%	1,170	721	449	38.4%	1,332	836	496	37.2%
Otero	18,152	16,813	1,339	7.4%	18,162	16,770	1,392	7.7%	17,615	16,209	1,406	8.0%
Quay	4,514	4,150	364	8.1%	4,454	4,077	377	8.5%	4,581	4,170	411	9.0%
Rio Arriba	13,083	10,409	2,674	20.4%	13,823	10,776	3,047	22.0%	12,723	10,093	2,630	20.7%
Roosevelt	7,533	7,155	378	5.0%	7,451	7,008	443	5.9%	6,931	6,548	383	5.5%
Sandoval	23,077	21,255	1,822	7.9%	22,713	20,876	1,837	8.1%	21,829	20,164	1,665	7.6%
San Juan	34,365	29,030	5,335	15.5%	34,648	29,120	5,528	16.0%	35,771	29,671	6,100	17.1%
San Miguel	10,038	8,761	1,277	12.7%	10,135	8,788	1,347	13.3%	10,215	8,921	1,294	12.7%
Sierra	2,626	2,434	192	7.3%	2,504	2,300	204	8.1%	2,468	2,292	176	7.1%
Socorro	5,849	5,306	543	9.3%	5,767	5,275	492	8.5%	5,689	5,224	465	8.2%
Taos	10,013	6,790	3,223	32.2%	10,368	6,862	3,506	33.8%	10,337	6,905	3,432	33.2%
Torrance	3,212	2,888	324	10.1%	3,229	2,862	367	11.4%	3,134	2,760	374	11.9%
Union	1,921	1,787	134	7.0%	1,932	1,776	156	8.1%	2,074	1,902	172	8.3%
Valencia	15,374	13,909	1,465	9.5%	15,387	13,874	1,513	9.8%	14,381	12,973	1,408	9.8%

1/ All estimates are made in strict accordance with methodology provided by the U. S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics

2/ Metropolitan Statistical Area - Bernalillo County

3/ Metropolitan Statistical Area - Dona Ana County

4/ Metropolitan Statistical Area - Santa Fe and Los Alamos Counties

New Mexico Department of Labor
Economic Research and Analysis (CC 6097)
P.O. Box 1928
Albuquerque, New Mexico 87103

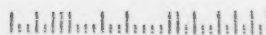


POSTAGE AND FEES PAID
EMPLOYMENT SECURITY MAIL
LAB 649

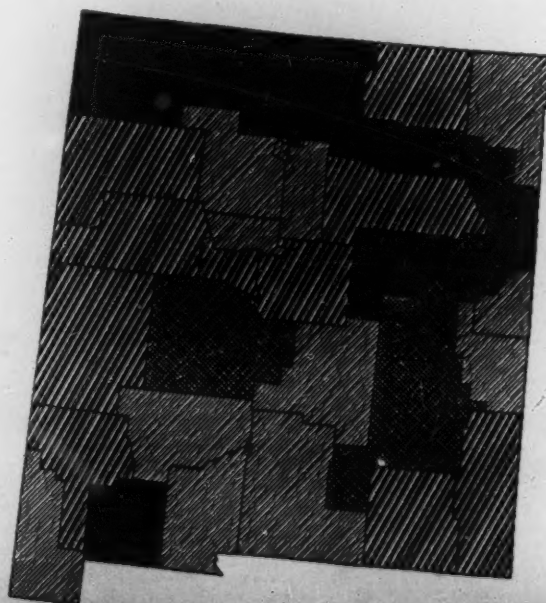
Official Business
Penalty for Private Use, \$300

FIRST CLASS MAIL

Congressional Info. Service
SRI
4520 East-West Highway
Bethesda, MD 20814



New Mexico
Unemployment Rates by Area
May 1987



Legend

-  5 to 8
-  8 to 9.5
-  9.5 to 14
-  14 to 36.2